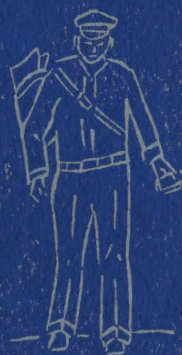
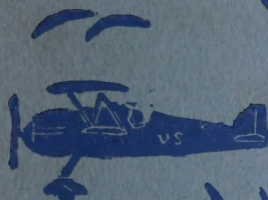


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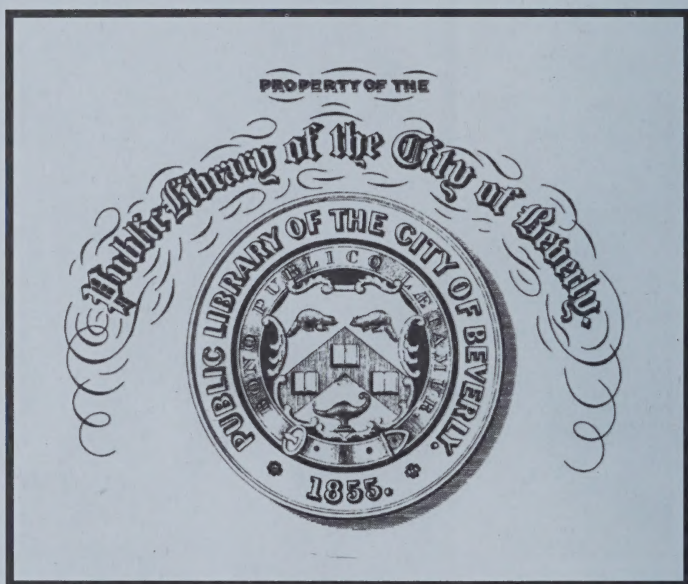
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BRISCOE BRIEFS



A school paper issued semi-annually by the students of the Briscoe Junior
High School, Beverly, Massachusetts

Vol. XII, No. 1

December, 1937

Price 15 cents



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The First Post Office in America

Helene Friedman, CPA

DEDICATION

Great men like Lincoln, Washington, and Columbus,
Are very well known and admired by all of us,
But a man whom we see every day,
To me's just as great in a different way.

You wonder, "Now who he can be?"
"Such a man, I never see!"
Who brings you news from far away?
And sees that the message is never delayed?

When cold winds howl and blizzards come,
And we're indoors, having our fun—
In coat of grey, bearing bag of leather,
Our postman's fighting 'gainst the weather.

Good news, bad news and greetings he delivers
Bundles, cards and parcels from across many rivers.
For the postman's faithful service we express our appreciation
And hope he will accept this well-earned dedication.

INFORMATION BUREAU

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Christmas Greetings

ONCE again the Christmas season approaches and we publish BRISCOE BRIEFS for our many readers. Each and everyone awaits Christmas with all the excitement of youth, impatient to extend the old familiar Christmas greetings.

In many war-torn countries, grief stricken people mourn over their losses, while in our country, the people enjoy a certain amount of peace and contentment for which they should thank God whose great commandment is to love one another.

The boys and girls of the Briscoe Junior High extend their hearty greetings to all who read their school magazine, and may they have a very happy Christmas!

RUTH GREENSTIEN, 9-CH.

Interview With Postmaster Cottrell

THE theme of our Christmas number being "The Mail Must Go Through," the staff felt that an interview with Postmaster Cottrell would be appropriate, and I was to obtain it.

The arrangements were made and when the day came I walked into the post-office where I was ushered into the private office of Postmaster Cottrell. I had a feeling that this duty was going to be a pleasant one and my intuition proved true. Mr. Cottrell was extremely friendly and helpful and I felt perfectly free to ask him many questions.

First I explained that the BRISCOE BRIEFS was to be dedicated to the postal employees of America and the purpose of my visit was to obtain information about the Christmas mails.

Mr. Cottrell told me that at Christmas time there is a 200% increase in mail. The men in the office work many extra hours at Christmas. There is so much extra work that thirty men are added to the employees list during the busy season.

He also spoke of the valuable help given by the sub-postoffice at all times and especially at Christmas. These sub-postoffices have been placed in all districts of the city for the convenience of the citizens of Beverly.

"There must be a substantial increase in revenue at Christmas?" I questioned. Mr. Cottrell replied, "The revenue doubles on Christmas mail."

"It must mean strenuous hours and work for the carriers," I ventured.

"When Christmas comes it means plenty of extra work for them but of course the last two days of the season an extra man or sometimes two are sent around with each carrier to lessen his burden."

During my conversation with Postmaster Cottrell he also told me that last year 1000 postal cards were disposed of because of incorrect address and it occurred to me that here was an opportunity for students of Briscoe.

Let each individual accept the responsibility of seeing that all letters, cards, and packages sent out from his family are correctly addressed. Through the efforts and co-operation of the student body, this waste of time, money, and energy might be eliminated.

ROSLYN ROUSE, *Assistant Editor.*

Don't Miss Your Train

"ALL aboard, all aboard! Get your ticket before it's too late!" This is the cry of the willing faculty to the eighth and ninth grade Briscoe School students. Yes, that is the call of the faculty, but how many of us answer it? The ninth graders' train goes to the Senior High School and although there is room for all, it awaits for no one. You can be on it. For the eighth graders, the train goes to Station Grade Nine. You can make it if you try. Already more than the first quarter has gone by. Be sure your ticket is stamped with all A's and B's. Cancel the C's and D's so that you may be permitted to make the trip. June, the set date for the two trains to leave is not far away. You can't afford to be left at the station.

NAOMI YAFFA, *Div. 9-CD.*

Help the Red Cross

BE it in far off China or in your own back yard the Red Cross is the first to respond to the care of the needy.

Long ago, when Clara Barton persuaded Congress to lend a helping hand and the American Red Cross was organized, she little dreamed what the future held for it.

It isn't your dollar that enables the Red Cross to continue its splendid work; it is the accumulation of membership fees by its many ardent supporters. The small fee of one dollar seems little to ask when the material results are so obvious.

BLANCHE ADLER, *Literary Editor.*



Priscilla Benjamin, 8-LH

An Interview With Congressman Bates

THE time was at hand for my interview with Congressman Bates and I must confess, as I waited for him to appear, that my confidence in myself was at low ebb and as for poise — that quality I felt sure had utterly disappeared from my being. The moment he smiled everything was normal again and I knew I had nothing to fear. After a cordial greeting he immediately put me at ease by telling me of his interest in boys' sports — football, baseball, hockey and rolly-polly, a game similar to hockey but played on roller skates.

The political ambitions of George J. Bates began in his youth as he watched Memorial Day parades, and saw men, once the pick of the Union, march in their tattered blue uniforms, and in front of them our flag for which they had sacrificed so much. These men had proved their good citizenship and loyalty in time of war. Could not he as a man help this nation in time of peace?

It became his chief ambition and he became a candidate for the Massachusetts Legislature in the fall of 1917 and was elected. The greatest thrill of his life came when he was elected by the people he loved as mayor of his home town, Salem. Having won the love and respect of his people he was re-elected without any opposition. Other laurels however awaited him and he was elected last fall as our Congressman. He stated, "It's not riches that make one a man, but his force of character and perseverance." To further prove his point he gave us as an example the late Calvin Coolidge, a close friend of his who, when a boy took advantage of his education and by sheer force of character obtained the greatest honor America has to offer, President of the United States.

In closing he offered these encouraging words to the youth of today: "Boys and girls who make their own reward of life and show clean living will be among the first to excite public attention. It's not money, your social standing, or your forbears — it's yourself and the opportunity is there for everyone of us who wants to make good. The doors are always open and opportunities are always present for those who want them."

JAMES A. MURPHY, Assistant Editor.

The Pony Express

THE most romantic period of postal service in the history of our country took place between 1860 and 1861 during the days of the Pony Express. To organize this system 500 of the best blooded American horses were needed; 190 stock station tenders for changing the riding stock; 500 station tenders to tend and care for the steeds; 80 of the keenest, toughest, bravest of the western youths for riders;



Louis Busson, 8-LM

Carrying the Mail in the West

and \$100,000 in gold coin to establish and equip the line. Daring and courageous riders were required to undertake this nerve-racking task. "Sure Shots" were necessary because of the ever lasting dangers from bandits and unfriendly Indians. These pony riders were expected to ride at a terrific speed in all kinds of weather. The mail was securely fastened, in a rain proof satchel, attached to the horse's saddle.

This system went into effect on April 3, 1860 and a weekly express traveled between St. Joseph, Missouri and Sacramento, California.

With the completion of the trans-continental telegraph in 1861 the Pony Express was eliminated. Although it had never been a financial success it taught a valuable moral lesson in the transportation of mail.

HARRIS TOLL, *Editor-in-Chief.*

A Christmas Eve in France

IT was Christmas Eve and the bleak winter wind of central France swept tantalizingly up the villiage street, blowing Annette's white woolen scarf up into her cold face, as she pushed slowly her sabots through the slush toward the school.

Turning her back to the wind so that her scarf would not blow in her face, she struck her heels on a large stone and lost her balance. Before she could even get her hands behind her, she was grasped firmly under each shoulder and swung high into the sturdy arms of a large man, clad in a strange soldier's uniform, the color of winter hills.

This was the first time Annette had come in personal contact with one of these "Americain Soldats," who the week before Christmas had come to the village, and were living in the larger barns and houses. None had come to Annette's home for the house, in which she and her grandmother lived alone, was very small.

To little Annette's surprise the soldier turned about and started toward the school with her in his arms. Ask and squirm as she would, he only laughed and carried her along to the school. All the soldiers and people of the village were going there, (with the exception of her grandmother, who was too feeble).

Right into the room he took her, but it was not the plain room where she met the master every day. For everywhere this evening were lighted candles. The most outstanding change was the huge green fir tree covered with bright Christmas colors, where usually stood the master's desk. Annette was so confused, that she could not realize where she was, until after the soldier had placed her in a front seat next to the tree. Then as she slowly unwrapped her scarf, she realized she was among her schoolmates.

Soon the mayor of the village quieted the excited people and told them of how the American soldiers, unable to return to their American homes, had invited the people of the village to join them in Christmas festivities.

All this time Annette had been intently looking at the tree, and had seen tucked among its branches, many brightly dressed dolls more gorgeous than she had ever seen before. After all had sung Christmas songs, the soldier who had brought Annette, came forward and was announced as Santa Claus.

Now Annette was all eyes, for Santa Claus took a shining new knife from



The Christmas Mail

Herbert Saunders, 9 CPW

the tree and presented it to the "petite garçon," sitting beside her. Then he took what seemed to be the most beautiful doll of all, and placed it in Annette's arms. As the other children were given things from the tree, Annette slowly realized that this Santa Claus had come to give things to the children. In school she had been told Santa Claus was coming to the soldiers, so this was a great surprise to her.

Annette was so intent in hugging her doll, that she did not notice the others going out until she was left alone. Then as she saw Santa Claus coming towards her she quickly wrapped her scarf about her. In her happiness, holding tight to her doll, she grasped his hand and led him towards her home to show her grandmother the one who had made her so happy on this Christmas Eve.

CONSTANCE DODGE, *Literary Editor.*

Progress of United States Mail

MAIL, the system by which our government conveys letters, dates back to colonial times when it was originated for the purpose of transporting letters, dispatches, and small parcels. To this service has been added from time to time, the carrying of books, magazines, periodicals, newspapers, registered letters, special deliveries, money orders, parcel post and circulars.

At first, mail was carried by man, boat or horse, from village to village. Today it is transported by airships, trains, automobiles, and dogsleds, which provides a service from person to person throughout the entire country.

The first great change, one which greatly simplified the handling of the mail, was the introduction of the adhesive stamp. This allowed the purchasing of stamps in volume, and the application to mail matter, by the sender.

Early free delivery in the greater cities, has been slowly extended to the moderate sized villages. While rural free delivery, furnishes service to the people of the country throughout the United States.

As faster means of transportation have proved practical they have been adopted, by the United States Government to speed up the mail.

Mail from its infancy in colonial times has grown, until now it is the greatest business enterprise conducted by our Federal government.

CONSTANCE DODGE, *Literary Editor.*

The Mail Goes Through

THE snow was falling thick and fast. The dark gray, foreboding clouds overhead, gave no sign of clearing. Somewhere among those dark clouds, a plane was endeavoring to reach its goal—Chicago. This plane was one of our most useful methods of transportation—the mailplane. Upon one man (the pilot), desperately trying to see through the fast falling snow, depended many lives. This man had taken upon himself a great responsibility. Through rain, snow, hail, or sunshine he must carry on—the mail must go through!

PRISCILLA WORCESTER, 9-CB.

The Christmas Mail Rush

BAG after bag filled to the brim with Christmas mail! Gifts and cards! Busy pilots fly in a rush from city to city! Millions of men working day and night, all striving towards the same goal to deliver the United States Mail.

How fortunate the people are to have such a splendid mail service. What a contrast to Colonial times when all mail was carried through on horseback, a long, toilsome, journey over rough roads through the wilderness. Our ancestors sent their mail, months ahead so that it would reach its destination in time. Now-a-days letters are sent by air mail across the country in two days.

Every year at Christmas time occurs this same rush. Not only is the mail rushed through at Christmas, it is done that way every day in the year. The Christmas mail is the hardest, however.

Just the thought of all the joy and gladness received from Christmas greetings, ought to make one appreciate the great work of the post office department. Unfortunately, however, there are many who do not appreciate the work of this department.

This year when your Christmas tidings arrive think of the many people who have made it possible for you to obtain these messages from loved ones and friends.

Theresa Bossie, 9-CB.

Learn History Through Stamps

IN 1845 the United States started her own form of postal service. Each town had it's own postal service. In certain localities, local authorities realized that stamps facilitated the work of their postmen, so prepared issues of adhesives. In 1847 the United States Government took over the issuing of stamps. The first two to be issued by our government were a five-cent stamp bearing the profile of Benjamin Franklin, our first Postmaster General, and a ten-cent stamp revealing the features of George Washington was also issued. Unfortunately these stamps were officially imitated in 1875 for the Centennial Exhibition at Philadelphia as they were required to form a part of a government exhibition. In 1851 postal rates were lowered. In 1861 a new series was called for, because the rebel states were holding considerable stocks of much value.

Our American stamps are a veritable pageant of progress. Now that the Post Office Department is noting our anniversaries, our stamps are proving a panorama of our history. The Battle of Braddock's Field is commemorated by a reproduction of Col. George Washington's statue. The three hundredth Anniversary of our state, Massachusetts, is shown by an Indian in an oval, upon which is written the Latin Motto of the colony.

In observance of the one hundred and fiftieth Anniversary of the settling of the Northwest Territory, the United States Government has issued a new stamp. Beverly has a right to feel proud, as Nathan Dane was chairman of the committee which drew up the Ordinance of 1787 for the new government of these settlers who were leaving in Covered Wagons to settle the unknown — the Northwest Territory.

Dagmar Audunson, 9-CPW.



Walter Thomas, 9-CTB

Right from the Heart

A blue clad postman calls at the door
Of the rich and of the poor;
And the door bell he will ring
Winter, autumn, summer and spring.

When the Yule-tide time draws near
You'll get your package never fear;
To your house he'll find his way
Though it snows all night and day.

So for him I write this rhyme
To carry him through the Christmas
time;

And now all Briscoe unites to give him
a cheer:

"Merry Christmas and a Happy New
Year!"

JAMES MURPHY, Assistant Editor.

An Old Man

A gray-haired man one afternoon,
Was shuffling 'cross the street,
When suddenly he stopped and stared
At something at his feet.

Slowly he stooped but still he stared;
The people wondered why;
The policeman called "Move on!"
And the horns honked loud and high.
The curious people elbowed in to see
what could be learned

The old man held his finding up
"A hair pin, — I'll be durned!"

FRANK PERRY, 8-BPW.

Dreams That Never Come True

That I might come to Briscoe one day
And have everything my own way!

If I didn't like to study

I could just annoy somebody;

In the hall I could talk

'Round the corridors I could walk;

If Mr. Cronin gave me a whack

I could turn around and sock him back;

And to those teachers I'd be able to say

"Say listen, you, get out of my way!"

While as for one student policeman

Would I give him a slap in the pan?

My coat would hang on anothers' hook

Pencils I'd get by hook or by crook.

I'd throw my Latin book into the fire

And compel all to address me as "Sire";

I'd probably become a bandit or thief

But my poem would go in the BRISCOE
BRIEFS!

JAMES MURPHY, Assistant Editor.

Air Mail

Fast through the night, roared the low-
winged plane,

Traveling home, over hill and plain,

Bringing its burden of man and mail,

Safe through the fog it came without
fail.

A haze of light showed the field below,
So the pilot deftly circled slow,

And coasted down with a sigh of relief,

The day's work done and he was
released.

DEANE RANKINS, 8-LR.

Choosing Shoes

New shoes, new shoes,
Red and pink, and blue shoes,
Tell me what you'd choose,
If they'd let us buy.

Buckle shoes, bow shoes,
Pretty-pointed-toe shoes,
Strappy-cappy-low shoes,
Let's have some to try.

Bright shoes, white shoes,
Dandy-dance-by-night shoes,
Perhaps-a-little-tight shoes,
Like some? So would I.

BUT

Flat shoes, fat shoes,
Stump-along-like-that shoes,
Wipe-them-on-the-mat shoes,
That's the sort they'll buy.

~~HELEN BAGNELL, Div. 8-BPL.~~

My Santa Claus

The mailman is my Santa Claus
He saunters down the street
A bag like Santa's on his back,
And boots upon his feet.
He rings the bell at our door
My heart does skip a beat,
I rush to gather all the cards
Which folks sent us to greet.
And sometimes he leaves packages
All wrapped up tight and neat
The mailman is my Santa Claus
He makes my happiness complete.

ROSE PETRONZIO, 9-CD.

Joy of Christmas

Oh, Christmas is a happy day,
Most joyous of the year.
Then Christ our Saviour came to stay,
And banished all our fears.

The bells toll and angels sing,
With happiness since His birth,
And messages from all people ring;
"Peace to men, good will on earth."

MILDRED HUTT, Div. 8-LH.

Christmas

Christmas is here in all its glory;
Christmas again with its jubilant story;
Here with the joy and the sports it
brings,

To be enjoyed alike by beggars and kings.

Santa arrives with his pack of toys,
And gives to all good girls and boys.
Then with a message of "Peace, good
will to men,"

He's quickly off for the North again.

EUGENE MARLEY, Poetry Editor.

Christmas Morning

Christmas morn had come;
Two children rushed down stairs;
On the floor a drum
With dolls, and teddy bears.
A box was opened quickly
To see what it contained,
Jack-in-the-Box popped swiftly,
And jumped right back in again.
Books and games and paints and balls,
With sleds and skis and skates,
A doll house with its painted walls,
And candy, board, and slates.
Christmas morn proved happy sure
For this girl and boy;
Santa on his happy tour
Had filled their hearts with joy!

HELEN BAGNELL, Div. 8-BPL.

The Postman

The postman hurries —
Oh, how he scurries
To get the mail bag through!
From the coldest day,
To the hottest May
He always works for you.
Up the street, down the street
Tramp his weary, footsore feet.
Joy, love, death and sorrow
Are apt to greet you on the morrow.
But the postman's cheery face
Will help your troubles to erase.

FRANCIS GANEY, 8-LH.



My Santa Claus

Betty Wiseman, CPL

Christmas Day

Turkey steaming on the platter,
In the bowl the biscuit batter,
Cranb'ry sauce with sugar sweet,
Something good for us to eat.
Table set so full and neat,
With plum pudding made so sweet,
With these things we always say,
"My, I like the Christmas Day!"
Then the dishes come galore,
I keep saying, "What some more?"
But at last they're put away,
At the end of Christmas Day.

MIRIAM COOK, 8-BPL.

Snowy Blowy January

Cold and frosty; clear as crystal
Is the snow in January;
Sharp winds like a biting pistol,
Blowing snow like ocean spray.

MARIE ROSSI, 8-BPL.

Christmas Mail

Here comes the postman down the street
He'll always be here in rain or sleet;
In all kinds of weather he goes on his
way
Knowing he will make someone happy
this day;
For this is the greatest rush of the year
When you receive cards from the ones
you love dear.

Here comes the postman down the street
With his big, brown bag and the mail
packed neat;
Packages thin, packages wide
We all know it's the Yule-tide;
Once more it is the same glad tale
A Christmas smile-card in your Christ-
mas mail.

VIRGINIA POTTER, Div. 9-CD.

Little Men About Briscoe

POSSIBLY John Trowt can't always hold onto a football but take it from me he won't let go of a certain traffic officer near home room 303 . . . It seems that Briscoe's flashy halfback is doing plenty of stepping, and incidentally, not on the gridiron . . . Fred McCarthy may be clumsy in cleats, but you ought to see him in dance shoes . . . Did you ever notice the pink flush in Aldo Vandi's face at the mention of a certain student? It seems a bit too late for a sunburn . . . Why does Henry Dix take his time passing from his home room to the first period every morning? . . . Does Thomas Casey love his English, or does he? . . . Is there a lack of enthusiasm in the band? Could it be from lack of a drum major of last year's calibre? . . . You ought to see Lawrence McClean wiggle his ears . . . Don't tell me Jimmy Vitale is having his championship challenged. I don't know but there certainly are some pretty small tots toddling around the corridors . . . I'm tossing a bouquet to the girls of Briscoe. Mr. Cronin hasn't had to speak of facial make-up yet! . . . Briscoe's football squad deserves a fine hand for its splendid sportsmanship and co-operation this year . . . Some may think that they see wonderful facial expressions in the movies. They certainly would have been astounded to see the various expressions on students faces after report cards were released . . . Mr. Foley certainly deserves commendation for the splendid way in which he whipped the raw material into a fine football team . . . In the faculty play Mr. Cronin was a little near-sighted. Take it from me, he hasn't missed much around school . . . Does "Skipper" Pickering still feel that way about the kid down the Alley? . . . Miss Whorff delivers quite a blow. Don't take me wrong, I mean with a golf club . . . It is rumored that eighth grade students are in a daze.

HARRIS TOLL, Editor-in-Chief.



Frances Berry, 9-CB

ROOM 23 - MISS WHORFF

President — FRANK CRONIN

Vice-President — BETTY CORNING

Secretary — JOHN EGAN

Treasurer — JANET EMERSON

HELLO everyone! Stand by for an important report! Room 23 announces its homeroom news.

Four people in our homeroom were on the honor roll. Betty Corning received major honors. Edwin Ericson, Constance Dodge, and John Egan received honorable mention.

A program committee of five was appointed to take charge of our Christmas plans. This committee will decide on decorations for the homeroom, and will arrange a program which will consist of readings, songs, skits, and interpretations appropriate for the Christmas season.

Everyone is eagerly looking forward to our Christmas activities.

FAITH CROMBIE.

ROOM 302 - MISS SHATSWELL

President — JUNE STORY

Vice-President — JEAN SHEA

Secretary — ROBERT TATE

Treasurer — BRADLEY WILLIAMS

THE first quarter was a busy one for 302. After electing class officers, we chose a banking and a program committee. A schedule for the week was also drawn up.

Plans have been made for our Christmas homeroom program which will include short plays, games, stories, and poems. The pupils have been urged to bring in pictures to decorate our room. In this way we shall feel the spirit of Christmas.

LOUIS VITALE.

ROOM 10 - MISS PORTER

President — ARTHUR BELL

Vice-President — HENRY BELANGER

Secretatry — LOUISE BARTON

Treasurer — CYRA BEDRICK

SALLY ADKINS, having once lived in Turkey, told us many interesting things about the country, and also a story in the Turkish language. A man in Turkey never meets his wife until the wedding day at the mosques (churches). If he thinks she has a pretty face and is a good worker, they marry; if not, he leaves her standing alone.

If you would like to know more about Turkey, ask Sally. I am sure she will be glad to answer all questions.

EVA BRUNDAGE.

ROOM 32 - MISS ACKERMAN

President — CHARLES PICKERING

Vice-President — JOHN RICHARDSON

Secretary — HENRY RYENSKI

Treasurer — BETTY PRESTON

HOBBIES was the discussion during the homeroom period one morning. Several children had stamp collections, while a few had airplane and boat models. Sewing and cooking were the hobbies of some of the girls. Many spent their leisure time in reading interesting books. The boys derived much pleasure from wood working. All agreed on swimming and roller skating in summer, and ice skating, sliding, and skiing in winter.

LEO PRANIKOFF.

ROOM 25 - MISS HAZELTON

President — LOUISE MACKENZIE

Vice-President — LOUISE MARTIN

Secretary — WARREN LAMONT

Treasurer — ALBERT LITTLE

ROOM 25 has many talented members. Melvin McNeil proved a good harmonica player, and Dorothy Kent likes to sing. Robert Hathaway has a fund of information about animals. John Harrigan uses his spare time after band practice with the modeling of planes; William Haslegrave, on model boats. Gerard Lavalliere has a coin collection, while John Luciano collects sponges.

VIRGINIA LAPOINTE.

ROOM 15 · MISS BUNK

President — HAROLD BOOTHROYD

Vice-President — HAROLD BLOSS

Secretary — RUTH ARNOLD

Treasurer — CHRISTINE BENNETT

HOME Room 15 is represented in extra-curricular activities, including the orchestra, band, football squad, and the BRISCOE BRIEFS, not excepting the clubs. These activities not only benefit the individual, for by interesting reports, the whole room derives profit from the work of the clubs.

Our diversified meetings have included programs observing anniversaries of important events, biographical sketches, current events, and discussions of school problems.

MIRIAM AYERS.

ROOM 303 · MRS. PARKS

President — JANET WALLIS

Vice-President — ROGER WILEY

Secretary — JUNE WARD

Treasurer — HARRIS TOLL

THE homeroom committee has put on a variety of programs. Biographies, question bees, and community singing have been a part of our activities.

One of the most interesting meetings was based on football. James Vitale, Harris Toll, Aldo Vandi, Robert Tannebring, Lyman Trask, and Roger Wiley all talked about fouls, punts, passes, and helped many of us to gain a greater knowledge of the game.

NORMAN TERRIEO.

ROOM 37 · MISS PULLEN

President — FREDERICK MCCARTHY

Vice-President — JACK MAZZOTTI

Secretary — RUTH KILLAM

Treasurer — DANIEL LOW

THE aim of our homeroom this year is to have readings, short skits, etc., which are not only educational but are of interest to the listeners. It is also important that each member of the class participate in some sort of activity. For instance, during American Education week, November 7 - 13, various pupils were called upon to read articles concerning Horace Mann, such as, "He Gave Us Schools," "Up From the Soil," "A New England Scholar," "The Great Decision," and others.

ELEANOR MARTIN.

ROOM 24 - MISS McCURDY

President — DAVID FOSTER
Vice-President — DONALD GILLIS
Secretary — ROSAMOND HARRIGAN
Treasurer — DAVID DONAHUE

QUESTIONS! Questions! Five girls are racking their brains for simple but catchy questions. These are to be used in a Professor Quiz program. Each girl is to think up seven questions. We can find many of them to ask our history or science teacher, but when it comes to making them up for a Professor Quiz program, it isn't so easy. I can tell you that they aren't going to be simple. The boys and girls must be alert as there will be prizes awarded.

JEANETTE GORDON.

ROOM 28 - MISS MARION BARKER

President — EDWARD HOLMES
Vice-President — EILEEN HUTT
Secretary — WINIFRED KEECH
Treasurer — ROBERT HENRY

EACH pupil in our homeroom has written on a piece of paper what he likes to do best.

One of the most interesting of these hobbies which has been shown to us is Samuel Knowlton's. He displayed his collection of prize ribbons which his pets have won.

His white angora cat has won five prizes, and his ducks have won first and best prize in a contest. These are only a few out of the twenty prize ribbons which he treasures.

MARY HENDERSON.

ROOM 27 - MISS LARCOM

President — DONALD FROST
Vice-President — NANCY FEMINO
Secretary — EVELYN FERRIERO
Treasurer — ETHEL ESSLER

NOT always do assemblies take place in Briscoe, but this, however, doesn't seem to have any effect upon homeroom 27. If there is an assembly, we go. If there isn't, well, we simply have our own. It is short, simple and appropriate. Sometimes it is a discussion, report on some special happening, or even the reading of an article which may have a bearing on some famous person or event connected with that particular date.

ROBERT HARDING.



Starting Deliveries

Jack Mazotti, 9-CB

ROOM 26 · MISS ROLFE

President — JANET MURPHY
Vice-President — PHILIP MORRIS
Secretary — PAUL MERCALDI
Treasurer — THERESA MORRETTI

THREE pupils gave an oral report on the Life of Doctor Grenfell, the Labrador medical missionary. Later a dramatization based on the important events of his life was presented under the leadership of Robert Mellor, chairman of the program committee. Those who took part were as follows: Wilda Page, Gloria Murphy, Eleanor Brown, Paul Mercaldi, Jack Misner, Leon Menkes, William McPherson, Neal Mitchell and Harold Shallow.

OLIVE MITCHELL.

ROOM 20 · MISS HARRISON

President — JOHN CORNING
Vice-President — ALICE DALTON
Secretary — GEORGIA DYER
Treasurer — ELEANOR DAVIS

THE Homeroom Committee presents a different and varied program each morning.

During the Red Cross Drive we studied the life of Clara Barton, the founder of the American Red Cross. At the time the Civil War broke out, she was in the center of the storm. With other volunteer nurses, she cared for the injured and fed groups who gathered about her in the Senate Chamber. "Our Lady of the Red Cross" lived past her ninetieth birthday, but her life is "measured by deeds, not days."

SALLIE CROWELL.

ROOM 203 · MISS SPOFFORD

President — RICHARD SOUTHWICK
Vice-President — THEODORE SCHEFT
Secretary — MAUDE SNOW
Treasurer — ANITA SOUCY

DO you think that the price for a hunting license should be raised to prevent needless killing of birds and animals? The pupils of our homeroom had an interesting discussion on this topic one morning. Some of the pupils brought in articles about persons who were shot during hunting trips. They agreed that persons should undergo an examination before being granted a license. This shows the type of meeting which we have during the homeroom period.

HENRY RESNICK.

ROOM 22 · MISS SYBIL BARKER

President — ARTHUR ST. PIERRE

Vice-President — VINCENT BUSSONE

Secretary — LOIS BLACKLER

Treasurer — THERESA BOSSIE

TWO weeks after school started, Miss Barker chose several pupils to head the committees on various subjects which would be suitable for homeroom discussion, for example, Thrift, Courtesy, Co-operation, and Attendance.

The week of October 25, 1937 was set aside for Theodore Roosevelt. From his life's story we tried to find qualities which would be excellent for us to cultivate as good citizens.

ROSE C. BIONDINI.

ROOM 202 · MISS ANDERSON

President — DOROTHY NAUGLER

Vice-President — ROSE PETRONZIO

Secretary — NANCY PARSONS

Treasurer — JOHN NEWBAUER

EACH homeroom meeting in Room 202 starts with opening exercises. These are planned by a devotional exercise committee made up of three homeroom members. This committee arranges the selections to read and chooses the people to take charge. Our program committee is planning work to be taken up in the homeroom period. We have a health squad which looks after the well-being of the members as much as possible and takes care of the temperature of the room. We also have a thrift committee, which takes charge of banking.

JEAN MOLLET.

The Mail Pilots

"The mail must go through," is our theme for this year,
Mail for your friends and your loved ones so dear;
What risks and chances these pilots take;
Year after year, though the storms may break;
Through thunder and lightning these flyers go through,
Perhaps to bring mother a letter from you.
Carefree, courageous young flyers are they
Who deliver the mail to us every day
In summer, in winter, in autumn or fall
These pilots bring messages to us all.

ADELE LAGASSE, Div. 9-CB.



Frances Staples, 9-CPW

The Lincolnian: Lincoln Junior High School, Portland, Maine

As a part of a regular assembly program, a preview of the annual play was given. The preview consisted of one scene from "The Maker of Dreams," the feature of the annual entertainment.

The Phillippian: Alice L. Phillips Junior High School, Wellesley Hills, Mass.

The members of the Geology and Astronomy Club visited the Harvard Observatory. A field trip to Babson Park is now being planned. The Dancing Club gives prizes on lucky number dances which it holds regularly.

Roosevelt Recorder: Roosevelt Junior High School, Elizabeth, New Jersey

At this school the Inquiring Reporter has become a regular feature. His column is always different.

Virginia Junior Life: Virginia Junior High School, Virginia, Minnesota

In the homerooms, to bring better understanding between teachers and pupils, discussions on manners, books, sportsmanship, and drama will be held. To bring this about pupils will take charge of the class.

The Curtin Junior Citizen: Curtin Junior High School, Williamsport, Penn.

The Home Economics Classes who have been studying the various cuts of meat, visited a local market. Several kinds were placed on a large table and the classes were seated in a semi-circle around it. A demonstration of the best cuts of beef, lamb, pork, and chicken proved very valuable.

Wolf: Wolf Junior High School, Easton, Pennsylvania

The Chips and Shavings Club occupied its first few periods by painting Wolf's football helmets. Everyone co-operated and this work was very successful. The boys are now deciding what projects they shall work on for the club period in the future. No officers were elected as all the time is spent with some kind of work, and the money which in other clubs would be used for dues is used in this club to buy wood.

Jefferson Journal: Jefferson Junior High School, Meriden, Conn.

The students attended the fourth annual convention of the Connecticut Scholastic Press Association. Mr. J. Murphy, director, gave a short address. Their paper was represented by members of the literary, photography, art, advertising, and printing groups. All went home satisfied with the success of the day.

The Broadcast: Waterville Junior High School, Waterville, Maine

The Outing Club has built a sizeable skating rink, made floodlights, and purchased cleaning equipment. Several classes have enjoyed faculty-sponsored parties.

The Shullton: S. E. Junior High School, Easton, Pennsylvania

Every year it is customary for Shull to award letters to those who have brought honor to the school by working in its musical, athletic, and literary organizations. There are different types of letters for each organization to designate what sort of work the wearer has done during the year.



Maria Rossi, 8-BPL

Get Acquainted Assembly

THE first assembly of the year was held in the auditorium on September 10. The purpose of the program was to introduce the new students to the old and to extend a hearty welcome to the new student body.

Bertram Glovsky, president of the Advisory Council opened the program with a few words of greeting.

Mr. Cronin, the school principal was introduced and in turn presented the members of the faculty and their respective departments.

Mr. Garniss, music instructor, sang two songs, "The Bell Man," and "Old Mother Hubbard."

Extra Curricular Activities

THE school today must train its pupils, the workmen of tomorrow, to use their leisure worthily and get enjoyment from their activities."

Briscoe meets this challenge through its extra curricular activity program.

In an assembly program, on September 24, representatives from various clubs described in detail the work of the group and invited others to join.

The speakers were as follows: Art Club, Marie Skelton; Dramatic Club, June Ward; Debating Club, Henry Resnick, Richard Southwick, Helen Friedman; Glee Club, Dorothy Naugier; Band, Jack Harrigan; Home Economics, Constantina Kessaris; Stagecraft, Robert Jacques; Woodcraft, Dominic Papa; Latin Club, Miriam Ayers; Nature Club, Ingrid Anderson; Science Club, Harold Boothroyd; Stamp Club, Dagmar Audunson; Athletics, Fred McCarthy; BRISCOE BRIEFS, Editor-in-Chief, Harris Toll.

Advisory Council Assembly

WHAT Briscoe expects of her students was described in a play *The Spirit of Briscoe* presented in the auditorium on Oct. 1, 1937. The purposes of the assembly were to bring out Briscoe's ideals and to induct the new members of the Advisory Council into office.

The cast was as follows: *Spirit of Briscoe*, Janet Wallis; *Grade Nine*, Richard Southwick; *Grade Eight*, John Harrigan; *Honor Spirit*, Nancy Parsons; *Fair Play Spirit*, Maude Snow; *Service Spirit*, Lois Blackler who illustrated the qualities of honor, service and fair play and how they could be developed. *The Briscoe Alphabet* consisted of George Hirtle, Dominic Papa, Alfred Pinciario, Enrico Laurantano, Joseph Blanchette, Clifford Field, and Lawrence Coult.

Mr. Cronin called the members of the Advisory Council to the stage, administered the oath and formally inducted them into office.

Members chosen for outstanding helpfulness during the past year were: Jean McKay, Faith Kenney, Bertram Glovsky, Lawrence McLean, Thomas Stott, and Roslyn Rouse.

Members elected by the students in September, 1937 were: Mario Rea, Joseph Shea, Arthur Bell, Harold Boothroyd, Edward Holmes, John Corning, Donald Frost, Janet Murphy, Louise McKenzie, David Foster, Frank Cronin, Arthur St. Pierre, Charles Pickering, Frederick McCarthy, Dorothy Naugler, Richard Southwick, June Story, and Janet Wallis.

October Assembly

TWO sons of October, James Whitcomb Riley, a noted American poet, and Christopher Columbus, the discoverer of America were honored at an assembly by home room 203 on October 8.

Thomas Casey, announcer, gave a biographical account of the well-known discoverer of the northern hemisphere, Christopher Columbus.

Janet Wallis recited one of Riley's most beloved poems, *Out to Old Aunt Mary's*.

In observance of fire prevention week, October 8 - 11, Captain Fred Dooling of the Central Fire Station spoke to the student body on the necessity for fire prevention.

A fire drill which was made in record time closed the program.

First Home Room Assembly

AN assembly was given by home room 203 on October 22, 1937 in observance of Theodore Roosevelt, former president of the United States and great adventurer, and Franz Liszt, the famous musician.

Richard Southwick was master of ceremonies and after the opening exercises the following members of room 203 talked on the life of Theodore Roosevelt: Harold Reilly, Mario Rea, Mary Roberts, Barbara Shepherdson, John Spiller, Roland Power, Joseph Shea, Herbert Saunders, Thomas Stott, Lawrence Rust, and Marguerite Ivory. Elizabeth Standley gave a summary of the life of Franz Liszt.

Room 203 sang, *The Song of Thanksgiving*, and Zelda Slotnick played a selection on the piano, *The Dreamer*, after which Roslyn Rouse sang, *How Can I Leave Thee?*

Armistice Assembly

THE assembly on November 10, 1937 was dedicated to the soldiers who gave their lives during the World War.

The program was as follows: *God of Our Fathers* - Song, Glee Club; Governor's Proclamation, Barbara Ryan; *Lest We Forget* - a talk, June Ward; Songs the Soldiers Sing, Dorothy Naugler; *Roses of Picardy* - Song, Prudence Preston; True Pals, Orchestra; In Flanders Field, David Churchley; Unknown; A Talk on Peace, Harold Bloss; I Would That Wars, Louise Barton; Song - 'Lovely Appear,' Glee Club; The Land Where Hate Should Die, Donald Gillis.



The Mail Goes Through

Jeanette Gordon Gray

Parents' Night

"RELATIONSHIP between the home and school in the field of education is very important." The value of this statement was expressed by Mr. Cronin in his greeting to parents on Parents' Night, November 16.

The following program, a sample of the regular assembly work of the Briscoe Junior High School, was presented for the parents who assembled in the auditorium after the various teachers had been interviewed:

- I. Greetings to Parents Mr. Cronin
- II. Briscoe Junior High School Orchestra
- III. Vocal Presentation 9-1 Music Class
 - (a) *Passing By* Purcell
 - (b) *Blacksmith* Ann White
- IV. Briscoe Junior High School Band
- V. Educational Pageant Home Room 202
 - A regular school assembly
 - Spirit of Education Mildred Reynolds
 - Spirit of Love Dorothy Nelson
 - Spirit of Courage Jean Mollet
 - Spirit of Ambition Audrey Rivard
 - Spirit of Helpfulness Nancy Parsons
 - Song - *Carry Me Back to Old Virginny*
 - Raymond Morgan, Dominic Papa, Alfred Pinciario,
 - Harry Odell, Albert Nash, William O'Connor,
 - Lillian McTurk, Virginia Potter, Helen Richmond,
 - Sylvia Grant, Alice Newman, Olive Quimby.
 - Wagon Wheels Dominic Papa
 - Polish Folk Song - *The Crimson Kerchief* Dorothy Naugler
 - Scottish Melody - *Turn Ye to Me* Prudence Preston
- VI. Briscoe Junior High School Orchestra

Crab Apple

THE faculty of the Briscoe Junior High School presented "Crab Apple," a light, amusing play by Theodore Packard, on Thursday and Friday evenings, November 18 and 19 for the benefit of the school fund.

The cast was as follows: Mr. Hunter, Principal, James A. Cronin; Mrs. Hunter, Inez M. Rolfe; Jim, William J. Foley; George, Jesse A. Dutelle; Amy, Ruth O. Ackerman; John, Freeman H. Garniss; Paddy, Esther A. Bunk; Prompters, Cora Porter, Marion Barker.

The proceeds of \$218 will be used for the extra-curricular activities program.

Miss Helena Cronin of the High School faculty coached the play.

Each teacher on the Briscoe faculty assisted to make the production an "all faculty" one.

Thanksgiving Assembly

THE assembly on Wednesday, November 24, took the form of a variety program. Tribute to Robert Louis Stevenson was paid by homeroom 23.

Janet Emerson announced the following program: Violin Solo, John Cunningham; Life of Robert Louis Stevenson, Constance Dodge; Saxophone Solo, Ralph Doble; A letter to Alison Cunningham, Phyllis Cook; Piano Solo, Margaret Driscoll; Trombone Solo, Edwin Ericson; Frank Cronin, Joseph Detorre, Eugene Driscoll.

coll, Frank Driscoll and William Creed enacted a scene from Stevenson's *Treasure Island*.

The program was then turned over to Mr. Cronin who read the Thanksgiving day proclamation by Governor Hurley.

A football rally was the closing feature. Coach Richardson spoke a few words about the Beverly and Salem game after which Coach Foley was presented with a testimonial from the Briscoe Junior High School football team.

Cheers and the singing of football songs left the student-body confident of victory over Salem.

Mark Twain

TO laugh when there is real cause for helpless tears is sublime faith. It means much to cheer a mournful world."

Mark Twain, with his magic pen and personality made this possible.

On Friday, December 3, homeroom 303 dedicated its assembly to him, one of the greatest men of our American Literary World.

The following program was presented:

Opening Exercises	Roger Wiley	Reader	Barbara Ginsberg
Introduction	Janet Wallis		"The Jumping Frog"
Narrator	June Ward	Soloist	Gladyce Tyldsley
Reader	Marjorie O'Brien		"Prince and Pauper"
	"Tom Sawyer"	Characters:	
Characters:		Prince	Robert Torrey
Aunt Polly	Priscilla Worcester	Pauper	Roger Thompson
Tom Sawyer	Henry Dix	Reader	Janet Wallis
Ben Rogers	James Vitale		"Innocents Abroad"
Billy Fisher	John Sudbay	Chorus	Entire Room
Johnny Miller	Walter Thomas		"Ole Man River"
Reader	William Williams		"America for Me"
	"Life on the Mississippi"	Conclusion	Janet Wallis

Whittier Assembly

AN assembly in observance of John Greenleaf Whittier, famous New England poet, was presented to the school on December 17, 1937.

The poems, "In School Days," "The Barefoot Boy," and "The Corn Song" were given by different members of room 32.

Maria Rossi and Mary Schofield gave reports on Whittier's homes in Haverhill and Amesbury which they visited recently.

George Stickney and his saxophone and David Raymond with his trombone gave a selection "Auld Lang Syne" after which Doris Sabine gave a patriotic tap dance.

Christmas Assembly

FOR its annual Christmas play the Dramatic Club has chosen *They That Sit in Darkness*, by Dorothy Clarke Wilson.

The chief character Miriam, who is an outcast of Bethlehem and finds peace and happiness with the coming of the Saviour, will be played by Janet Wallis.

Others who will participate are: June Ward, Carolyn Story, Donald Frost, Thomas Casey, John Conley, Marjorie Thompson, Sally Adkins, Priscilla Worcester, Ethel Hall, Elizabeth Trask, Richard McManus, Jack Misner, Philip Morris, Leon Menkes, Terence O'Callahan, David Donahue, Garrett Lynch, and Ruth Arnold.



Jack Mazzotti, 9-CB

Briscoe 0 - Marblehead 0

THE Blue and White opened its gridiron season with the "featherweights" of Marblehead and held them to a scoreless tie. Over 750 fans watched the game. The sweeping end-runs of Vandi and Trask were outstanding while Trowt with his line-plunging and kicking enabled the team to hold its own. "Jesse" James, brilliant defense guard, stood out for the "Headers" and seemed the backbone of his team.

Briscoe 13 - St. John's Preparatory 0

IN the second game of the season Briscoe Junior High defeated St. John's Preparatory from Danvers for its first victory by a score of 13 to 0.

Trowt and Vandi were outstanding because of Trowt's brilliant running and of Vandi's interception. Harris Toll recovered Briscoe's fumble over the goal line for our first touchdown. Trowt made the second touchdown in the third quarter and also drop-kicked the goal to win.

Briscoe 6 - Gloucester Frosh 0

THE score which Briscoe Junior High School forced upon the Gloucester Freshmen at Hurd Stadium Friday was 6 to 0. The feature play of the game was an eighteen-yard run by Vandi after which Trowt took the ball to the goal line making the lone score. Gloucester threatened to score but once when a kick was picked up by Lyman Trask behind the goal line, but was ruled a touch-back and not a safety.

Briscoe 6 - Haverhill 14

THE tragedy has come! After sixteen consecutive victories since their organization in 1935, the Briscoe Junior High School football team came out on the

short end of the score by 14 - 6. It was their first defeat in three years. The summary of the score up to date is as follows:

Won	Lost	Tied	Pts.	O. P.
14	2	2	235	34

Trowt scored the first touchdown in the initial quarter. The Cubs scored on a lateral pass with Kitteridge on the receiving end. They scored again when Takesian raced around left end for twenty yards and the second touchdown. This was the outstanding play of the game. Thompson place-kicked both goals.

Briscoe 9 - Ipswich 12

BRISCOE tasted its second defeat of the season at the hands of a strong Ipswich Frosh. Joe Robishaw was the star, scoring two touchdowns for Ipswich, while John Trowt added seven points to Briscoe's score. In the second half Joe Robishaw thrilled the spectators with a sixty-yard dash scoring the first touchdown for Ipswich. The game ended with Briscoe vainly trying to make a touchdown through passes.

Briscoe 27 - Northeastern 0

WITH Trask and Trowt leading the assault, Briscoe Junior High School trounced Northeastern Junior High School by a score of 27 to 0. Briscoe easily overpowered Northeastern by scoring in every quarter. Every player in uniform was given an opportunity to play in their final game at home. The most exciting part of the game came in the first quarter when Aldo Vandt, Trask, and Trowt hammered at Northeastern's line until they had completed a seventy-four yard march for a touchdown.

Briscoe 20 - Southern 7

THE Blue and White ended its grid-iron season in a victory over Southern Junior High School of Somerville. The game was played at Dilboy Field and Briscoe came out on top with a score of 20 - 7. The first touchdown came after a forty-three-yard march with Trowt going over to score. The conversion for the point failed. Trask scored twice more in the first half. The third touchdown was the outstanding play of the game. On this play Trask cut through right tackle and ran untouched across the goal line. Both points after the touchdown were successful. The average of the team this year is .866.



Mildred Reynolds, 9-CPW

Exclusive Flashes Broadcasted from Hotel Haywire

THE Artists and Models in *Broadway Melody of 1938* are requested to use the Stage Door at the Dead End of Quality Street.

Stella Dallas has been the Personal Property of Kid Galahad since their Waikiki Wedding last month.

Parnell makes Varsity Show Wake Up and Live with Mountain Music.

Ever Since Eve found her Conquest Gone With the Wind she has been Off to the Races at Saratoga alone.

Blonde Trouble has been Back in Circulation since a Talent Scout tried to Pick a Star.

David Copperfield has been skating on Thin Ice Between Two Women.

Slim, Hollywood's Knight Without Armor got Married Before Breakfast today at a Public Wedding.

Wee Willie Winkie, Sweetheart of the Navy has taken Time Out For Romance since The Man in Blue has come along.

Listen to the next broadcast from Cafe Metropole on Angel's Holiday.

CYRA BEDRICK, Exchange Editor.

Necessary Evils

Eight parts of speech we kiddies need
 When we talk or write or read;
 They are the Nouns, as 'John' and 'tea';
 Pronouns such as 'thou' and me;
 The Verbs as 'talk' and 'walk' and 'tell';
 Adverbs, — 'sweetly,' 'neatly,' 'well';
 Hard Conjunctions, — 'either,' 'or';
 The Prepositions 'from' and 'for';
 The Adjectives, — 'sweet,' 'good' and
 'low';
 Interjections — 'Oh!' 'Hey!' 'No!'
 These parts of speech we need each day
 When we study, when we play.

GEORGIA DYER, 8-BPL.

Humor

I've never seen a fire truck,
Or had a window pain;
I've never seen a candy kiss,
Or seen a picture framed;
I've never seen a bed with legs
Or seen a big horse fly;
Did you ever sleep in the ocean's bed?
Or seen a needle's eye?
I'd like to drink from a bed spring
Or see a walking stick;
I've never heard an ear ring
Or seen a watch tick;
I've never voted at a pole
Or seen a chimney sweep;
Where is the hair on a hammer's head?
Or the head of the farmer's wheat?
This language does seem crazy
With many different ruts
But we all speak it fluently
And so it is the "nuts!"

CLINTON CLARKE, *Humor Editor.*

Learn About Women from Me

Lipstick, powderpuffs, perfumes and
smiles
Are all a part of a woman's wiles;
Words of praise from her mouth flows
"You're such a nice man! Let's go to the
show!"
When you take her to the Waldorf to
dinner
She secretly thinks — "I picked a
winner"—
But when you pay the check and are out
of money
She bids you so sweetly "Goodbye
honey."
Then, unwisely you call a later day
She replies "So sorry" and sends you
away.
Tho' you argue it's larceny and treason,
In your heart you know her reason.
Now, my dear fellows, take my advice
Women are as dangerous as loaded dice.

JAMES MURPHY, *Assistant Editor.*

Transfers Wanted

BRISCOE student would like to hear from any town where "E" means excellent.

First class English teachers that will forget to give pupils homework.

Exchange of first class math tests for study periods.

First class jack-knives wanted by pupils for carving into desk covers.

Will exchange short students for six-footers to play on football team.

Will take second-class funny papers for literature books.

Teacher: "The Grand Canal was built before the Christian Era."

Bright pupil: "Christian Era? Who was she?"

Teacher: "What are two devices that make use of the heating effect of electricity?"

Pupil: "The washing machine and refrigerator."

Teacher: "What did you say to Gloria?"

Pupil: "To tell you the truth I said she was an exact reproduction of an animated Siamese horse-fly."

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